

• First Glances at New Books

Public Health

DANGEROUS DRUGS—Arthur Woods—*Yale University Press*, 123 p., \$2. A clear and stirring discussion of the narcotic drug problem by one whose experience as Police Commissioner in New York City and as assessor to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs of the League of Nations has given him first-hand knowledge of the situation. The book will have a general appeal because of the interest in the subject matter, but there is also a special appeal to the thoughtful reader in the final chapter which tells what is to be done.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Psychology

AMERICAN TYPES—James Oppenheim—210 p., \$2.50. A novelist who has turned to psychoanalysis attempts the rather large task of psychoanalyzing a nation, or as he says a "race." It is entertaining to see how he sorts prominent people into types—President Hoover and Aimee Semple McPherson, Jane Addams and Lillian Gish; each one is given a cubbyhole.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Hygiene

HEALTH STORIES AND PRACTICE—William E. Burkard, Raymond L. Chambers and Frederick W. Maroney—*Lyons and Carnahan*, 256 p., 76c. A health reader for third grade. It is made up of stories illustrating health habits or facts. Following each story is a list of health habits, a list of things to remember, and a list of things to do, which summarize and emphasize the lesson of the preceding story. Illustrations are in color.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Horticulture

NUT GROWING—Robert T. Morris—*Macmillan*, 236 p., 18 pl., \$2.50. A second and revised edition of a much-needed work on an industry well-developed in some parts of the country and for certain species, but worth further developing.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

General Information

AMERICAN YEARBOOK—Edited by A. B. Hart and W. M. Schuyler with the cooperation of a supervisory board representing national learned societies—*American Year Book Corporation*, 887 p., \$7.50. A valuable concise record of the year's events set forth in readable,

readily accessible form. The Yearbook for 1930 contains, in addition to an account of the history of the period, a full account of the organization and conduct of the business of the country and of scientific, social and educational progress in America in 1930.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Biology

THE SCIENCE OF LIFE—H. G. Wells, Julian S. Huxley and G. P. Wells—*Doubleday Doran*, 1514 p., (2 vols.), \$10. This work, which undertakes to give a conspectus of all living things, both existent and extinct, is conceived with a characteristic Wellsian sweep and presented with Wellsian authority. Unfortunately, however, the treatment is somewhat uneven. Intended to be popular, the discussion frequently becomes noticeably "textbooky;" the illustrations of this, the American edition, moreover, are not up to the mark set by the English edition.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Construction

CARE AND REPAIR OF THE HOUSE—Vincent B. Phelan—*Government Printing Office*, 121 p., 20c. Anyone who likes to or has to work around the house upon odd jobs will wish to keep a copy of this Bureau of Standards booklet in his tool chest. It will save many dollars for those who have the responsibility of keeping a house in repair even if they do not do their own work.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Psychology

INTELLIGENCE TESTING—Rudolph Pintner—*Holt*, 555 p., \$2.40. A new and revised edition of a comprehensive work on the methods, results and history of making and using mental tests.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Geophysics

THE FIGURE OF THE EARTH—*National Research Council*, 286 p., \$3.50. Leading men in several branches of geophysics have prepared this monograph, which constitutes Bulletin No. 78 of the National Research Council. Tidal theory and computations, earth tides, isostasy, the size and shape of the earth, determination of "g", the determination of elevations and geographic positions, and the variation of latitude are among the problems dealt with.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Astronomy

THE STARS IN THEIR COURSES—Sir James Jeans—*Macmillan*, 173 p., \$2.50. The latest book by this leading British astronomer who has just visited America provides a fascinating introduction to astronomy. It is not the sort of book to take out under the summer night sky as a guide to star gazing, but if you read it and then view the splendors of the sky you will appreciate them much more.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Morphology

THE PHYSICAL BASIS OF PERSONALITY—Charles R. Stockard—*Norton*, 320 p., \$3.50. This interesting and remarkable book will explain to the ordinary man such puzzling things as genes and chromosomes, why he looks the way he does, and what his looks signify in terms of personality and character. The book is noteworthy because the author contrives an interesting and very readable account of a difficult scientific subject without jazzing the facts or resorting to the usual style tricks of most popular science writers.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

General Information

AMERICAN AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—Compiled by Ruth Savord, Librarian—*Council on Foreign Relations, Inc.*, 138 p., \$1.75. A useful directory of organizations engaged in promoting a better knowledge of world affairs. The list is large and revealing.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Zoology

COLLEGE ZOOLOGY—R. W. Hegner—*Macmillan*, 713 p., \$3.50; **LABORATORY GUIDE FOR COLLEGE ZOOLOGY**—R. W. Hegner—75 p., \$1. Hegner's text, standard since 1912, appears in a third, completely revised edition. A new chapter, on genetics and heredity, together with a glossary, have been added.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1931

Dendrology-History

NOTABLE TREES OF VIRGINIA—J. E. Lodewick and Mrs. Lynwood R. Holmes—*Virginia Polytechnic Institute*, 24 p. Photographs and brief accounts of trees and groves in Virginia made famous through events in two great wars and many years of peace.

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